



By CAPT. HARRY L. WELLS, 2d Ore., U. S. V.

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Besides their other arms the insurgents had about 6,000 Remingtons. Occasionally we met a force in which there were men armed with these, always of the militia, or "Amigo" class. It must be remembered that the Springfield bullet is all lead and flattens out when it strikes an obstacle, while the Mauser and Krag bullets are small lead slugs covered with hard steel jackets, giving them great penetrative power.

I have tested them by firing at a block of sandstone such as is used for foundations of houses, and discovered that the Mauser penetrated the stone eight inches at a distance of 50 feet, the Krag six inches and the Springfield not at all, flattening itself on the surface.

THE REMINGTON RIFLE.

The Remington rifle is the same size as the Springfield, but it is a lead slug covered with a thin jacket of brass. This is what led to the reports sent home that the insurgents were using poisoned bullets, an absurdity which is only equalled by other reports based upon ignorance and army gossip, but which our home critics accepted as gospel truth because they came in letters of private soldiers. Sometimes these brass-covered bullets had a little verdigris on them, and such bullets would naturally affect the wound created by it. That was all the poison there was and all there is to the poison stories, except possibly poisoned arrows used by Igarites in the first battle, about which I can say nothing, though the Spaniards assured us such poison was used by Igarites. But they never cut any practical figure in the war.

These Remington guns had about the same range as the Springfields, and the

just then it struck the man only two feet to my left just over the left ear. Had he turned to look at it as I did it would have struck him in the eyes, and had he not been there I would have got it. He fell perfectly still. I saw his hat lying on the ground with a hole torn in the brim large enough to put my fist through, and I consoled at once that I had a dead man to report. I stepped down to examine him and turned his head over to see the wound, and saw that the bullet had not grazed the skin and he was only stunned. I took the bullet from his mouth, and as he came to I gave him a drink, and in another minute he was on his feet and hurrying to catch up with the line. We thus discovered that the bullets that made us do the most dodging were not the ones which did the most damage. I have strayed a little from the subject of the comparative merits of the Springfield and the Krag, and will return.

THEORY VERSUS FACT.

The only excuses offered for not arming the volunteers with the Krag are so foolish that one feels like apologizing for the assinnity of the officers in their command who advanced them to ally public sentiment at the time it was based upon knowledge of the inferior weapons placed, or rather kept, in the hands of the volunteers.

These reasons were four in number, to-wit: The volunteers preferred the Springfield; the Springfield was more effective because the bullets killed a greater proportion of those hit than the smaller caliber ball; the volunteers were not so good shots as the Regulars, and did not need

dark during night attacks. As luck would have it we had to defend our station against a heavy attack the very night the guns were issued, yet not a single man who had been given a Krag had any trouble in handling it or in using it effectively, though it had been in his hands but a few hours. The entire regiment would have done just as well. It would have been a practical thing to have armed the volunteers with Krags, which might have been done, because the guns were then in Manila, but to give companies two kinds of guns and make them have two calibers of ammunition is a violation of common military principles, and no man with pretense to military knowledge should have been guilty. At the beginning of the civil war it was necessary, and was the cause of much loss of life, that the army should have two kinds of guns. In the Philippines it was entirely unnecessary, and was the result of the stupidity of consolidated report theorists.

(To be continued.)

A PEST OF THE HEMLOCK BELT.

Woodsmen Hate the Spiny-Armored Porcupine—Little Beasts That Know Not Fear, and Will Fight to the Death if Attacked. (New York Sun.)

"There are more hedgehogs or porcupines, as the natives call them, in the hemlock forests of northwestern Pennsylvania than anywhere else in the East," said an old Potter County woodsman. "They are curious creatures, and a great pest about lumber and hunting camps."

"A peculiarity of these spiny-armored little beasts is their fondness for salt. If the four sides of a lumber shanty be salted from ground to roof the porcupines would eat it down over the heads of the inmates, and not leave a splinter of it to mark where it stood. They do not care for a man or 20 men when there is a salt barrel in camp, and they will persist in going at it as long as one of them is left alive."

"An old lumber shanty in the McKean County woods, occupied by two bark-peelers, was raided one night by a drove of little salt-eaters. They came from all directions, waked the inmates of the cabin by scurrying over them, and kept them awake a long time afterward by their determination to take possession of the place. The bark-peelers fought the persistent

SPONGE FISHING.

A Consular Report on the Industry in the Levant.

An interesting and instructive report on sponge fishing in the Levant has been received by the State Department from G. Bie Ravndal, United States Consul at Beirut. The Consul says Greek and Turkish sponges have been known to the trade for hundreds of years. Syria furnishes perhaps the finest quality, and shipments are made from Tripoli and Latakia to Paris, London, Trieste, Hamburg, New York and other places. During the last 15 years, however, the output has greatly diminished, owing to the introduction by Greeks in the 70s of diving apparatus which proved ruinous to fisheries and fishermen alike. It is estimated that the annual exportation of Syrian sponges at present hardly exceeds \$85,000 in value.

In the adjoining territorial waters, Cyprus, sponge beds are being worked with varying success. Sponges were exported from that island in 1808 to the amount of \$10,425, and in 1809, \$28,835 worth were shipped. Egypt, Barbary, Crete, Rhodes, Samos, Calymnos and other islands of the Turkish and Greek Archipelago also produced sponges for export. The United States annually buys sponges to the amount of about \$500,000, the principal shipments proceeding from Nassau (Bahama Islands), London and Piræus.

In collecting the sponges four methods are employed—harpooning, primitive diving, dredging and diving with special outfit.

With harpoons, one of the chief difficulties is to see the bottom clearly through a troubled sea. To obviate this a wooden or zinc-plate cone, like a water bucket, open at the top and with a glass bottom, is used. On looking through this water glass, which is partly submerged, the bottom of the sea may be clearly studied, even at 30 fathoms, and the proper sponges picked out by the harpooners.

The primitive method of diving, with no other apparatus than a slab of stone as a sinker, and a cord to communicate with the surface, is most popular in the Levant. On reaching the bottom the diver hastily snatches up as many good sponges as possible, and after remaining under water from one to two minutes, tugs violently at the cord, and is drawn to the surface. The sponges are collected in a net which the diver carries around his neck.

At greater depths, particularly along the coast of the Levant, the diver is usually in winter, when storms have torn up the sea weeds which cover the bottom.

To these simple operations was added the use of a diving apparatus, the diver being in his submarine dress, to spend an hour under water at from 10 to 15 fathoms. Experience has shown that the employment of the last two methods is a severe tax upon the sponge banks, as everything in sight, sponges large and small, are gathered. Germs and seeds also suffer greatly, and it takes years before a new crop matures.

The fishermen who use the "skafander" are frequently stricken with palsy of the lower extremities, and other complaints.

The abuses which so disastrously affect the Levantine sponge industry have attracted the attention of the United States. Charles Fiebigel, to inaugurate a campaign for the abolition of diving apparatus in sponge fishing. Through his efforts the authorities of Salonica, Crete and Cyprus have prohibited the use of the "skafander," also the Governments of Italy and France, the latter acting in behalf of Tunis. The matter will be taken up and discussed at the International Fisheries Congress, which is to be held in St. Petersburg in February and March next.

Tongue Reading.

(London Globe.)

Linguistics is the most recent craze in Paris. If one pretends to call it "divination," money, well and good. Under either name it means tongue reading, and it threatens to compete with palmistry. A big tongue, it seems indicates frankness; a short tongue dissimulation; a long and broad tongue, garrulity and generosity; a narrow tongue, concentration and talent; a short, broad tongue, garrulity and untruth. The man with a very short, narrow tongue is a liar of true artistic merit.

"You don't have to skimp around much to get fed to fatten the hemlock-belt porcupine. Just sprinkle salt plenty over a stick of wood, or a saw log, and he'll eat the whole thing, and enjoy it like you would mince-pie."

"The customary diet, though, of these curious creatures is hemlock browse. They make themselves a lane in a hollow log, or under the roots of some old tree, but always within reach of a big hemlock. The hemlock is their pasture, and beaten paths show how they make their trips to and from their homes and their feeding places. The porcupine climbs a tree as readily as a squirrel would, provided some one doesn't sneak up and cut its tail off before it can get to the top."

The porcupine is a most important factor in the climbing, for the animal uses it to propel itself upward, working in unison with its sharp nails. Barring the hemlock, the porcupine cannot go farther up the tree, and it will not come down without it. If anyone should catch a porcupine climbing a tree and should chop its tail off close, it will stop right where it is and will stay there until it starves to death, unless some one takes the poor animal away.

"Once up the tree, the porcupine goes on at a big limb, and, pulling the small branches in with one paw, browses at a pungent leaves. In going through the woods you will find little mounds of these fine leaves on the ground beneath hemlock trees. That means that a porcupine is feeding in the tree. The leaves on the ground being those that he has dropped in his feast. Sometimes a porcupine will remain in a hemlock tree a week at a time, buzzing low to the trunk at night, and feeding during the day. The odd little beast is the only living thing that eats the foliage of the hemlock."

While the hemlock belt porcupine is entirely harmless, it is greatly dreaded by hunters and is a great annoyance to trappers. It seems to be an impossibility to train out of any dog an inborn predilection for fighting this animal. The best-trained deerhound or beaver dog will stop on the trail to have a fight with a porcupine, and although the dog generally succeeds in time in killing his game, it is often the snoring of the dog that terrifies himself. He is sure to have his mouth and nose filled with the porcupine's sharp quills during the fight. The pain they inflict maddens him and he pitches in fiercer than ever, only to receive a shower of poisonous shafts entering his mouth and nose as to destroy his nose, if not injuring him so that he has to be killed. So an important part of a hunter's equipment when going farther in the hemlock belt woods is a pair of pincers, with which, in case his dog tackle porcupines, the quills may be extracted at once. They cannot be pulled out with one's fingers, and many a hunter, not having pincers at hand, has been forced to extract porcupine quills from his dog's nose with his teeth or lose his dog.

Then the snoring little beasts pose around the trapper's martens and other traps, and although they pay with their lives for their inquisitiveness, they are worth the trapper, and spoil his chances for game that is valuable."

Sister—What is the best way to retain a man's love?
Brother—Don't return it.—Chicago News.

Treasury Receipts, Books, Etc.

For Terms of the New Contest see first page.

After next week we will be calling for the photographs and histories of new winners. If you would be among them, do not delay in making a deal and sending in guesses.

Everything is to gain by a venture in this contest. Any man, woman or child, with the least effort in the world, can make a profit out of the \$10 bargain offered on the first page. With the 1,024 guesses that go with a \$10 deal, there is a fair chance of winning a big cash prize.



MISS EDIE LINGENFELTER, WINNER.

Miss Edie Lingenfelter, of Danville, Ill., another young lady, won a prize (\$20) in the last contest. She had the range so exactly that it can well be imagined she would have won the first prize of \$5,000 if she had made 1,024 or more guesses in the same range. "Get a plenty"—the old lady's advice—applies to guesses as it did to good farm land when it was selling for \$1.25 an acre.

Miss Lingenfelter writes: "I was much pleased to receive, and am very thankful for, the bank draft. My father, Josiah Lingenfelter, was in the Civil War, serving in Co. C, 103d Ill. His two brothers, also, and mother's father and two brothers, and grandmother's brothers, all were in the war; some of them were killed and wounded."

New Edition

Greeley's American Conflict.

We are printing a beautiful, new edition of this best history of the War of the Rebellion. The cloth-bound copies will be ready for delivery about Oct. 1. Price \$3. Those who have neglected to purchase this work should order now.

Laughlin's Fountain Pen.

We have a limited supply of Laughlin's Fountain Pens, one of the very best pens on the market, which we will be pleased to send, postpaid, to friends and patrons, upon receipt of the regular price, \$1 a pen.

It is profitable now to do business with The National Tribune. See first page.

Have you read extracts from the fine addresses the President is delivering on his New England tour? If you get his books you will find them filled with as good reading matter as was ever put in type.

Monday's Treasury Receipts for a Year and a Half.

Following will be found the Treasury Receipts of Mondays for a year and a half. This will give contestants the information that is often asked for.

It will be noticed the receipts have run as low as \$1,452,064.06 and as high as \$5,421,024.87. Four times during this period the receipts have been over three million.

The figures printed in black type were guessed at by our contestants, each representing the date of contest. So far as we can learn there is nothing expected in September that will cause the figures to be abnormal, either higher or lower than the average, for Monday, Sept. 15.

As explained before, we select a Monday's receipts because it is simply impossible for anyone to have the least idea what they will be. As a matter of fact, the receipts reported for Mondays are in unopened packages and letters in the express offices and postoffice over Sunday. As soon as delivered at the Treasury Monday morning the contents of letters and packages are added up and the sum is the receipts for the day. It is simply impossible for anyone to know what sums are contained in the hundreds of letters and packages before they are received and opened Monday morning.

DURING 1901.

Monday, Jan. 7.	\$2,421,264.14
Monday, Jan. 14.	2,150,580.21
Monday, Jan. 21.	1,836,849.35
Monday, Jan. 28.	2,232,394.51
Monday, Feb. 4.	2,324,149.07
Monday, Feb. 11.	5,421,024.87
Monday, Feb. 18.	2,435,365.49
Monday, Feb. 25.	1,984,961.79
Monday, Mar. 4 (Inaug. Trans. closed).	
Monday, Mar. 11.	2,723,632.74
Monday, Mar. 18.	2,394,877.50
Monday, Mar. 25.	2,098,450.04
Monday, Apr. 1.	1,908,318.14
Monday, Apr. 8.	2,712,318.86
Monday, Apr. 15.	2,861,010.62
Monday, Apr. 22.	2,125,364.14
Monday, Apr. 29.	2,569,881.19
Monday, May 6.	3,269,942.64
Monday, May 13.	2,414,035.83
Monday, May 20.	2,346,903.41
Monday, May 27.	2,240,904.63
Monday, June 3.	3,104,094.41
Monday, June 10.	2,402,584.54
Monday, June 17.	2,567,379.97
Monday, June 24.	1,824,470.70
Monday, July 1.	2,974,598.86
Monday, July 8.	2,964,114.06
Monday, July 15.	2,537,149.41
Monday, July 22.	2,235,497.03
Monday, July 29.	2,103,637.48
Monday, Aug. 5.	2,004,579.63
Monday, Aug. 12.	2,190,498.28
Monday, Aug. 19.	1,893,886.96
Monday, Aug. 26.	2,195,983.75
Monday, Sept. 2 (Labor Day, No Receipts).	
Monday, Sept. 9.	1,928,335.25
Monday, Sept. 16.	3,515,789.16
Monday, Sept. 23.	2,818,359.88
Monday, Sept. 30.	2,873,052.01
Monday, Oct. 7.	2,369,888.86
Monday, Oct. 14.	2,132,024.77
Monday, Oct. 21.	2,694,375.43
Monday, Oct. 28.	2,685,495.40
Monday, Nov. 4.	1,711,700.29
Monday, Nov. 11.	2,055,379.67
Monday, Nov. 18.	2,104,879.71
Monday, Nov. 25.	2,923,111.67
Monday, Dec. 2.	2,540,017.34
Monday, Dec. 9.	2,370,706.57
Monday, Dec. 16.	1,951,685.60
Monday, Dec. 23.	2,339,015.40
Monday, Dec. 30.	2,397,719.09

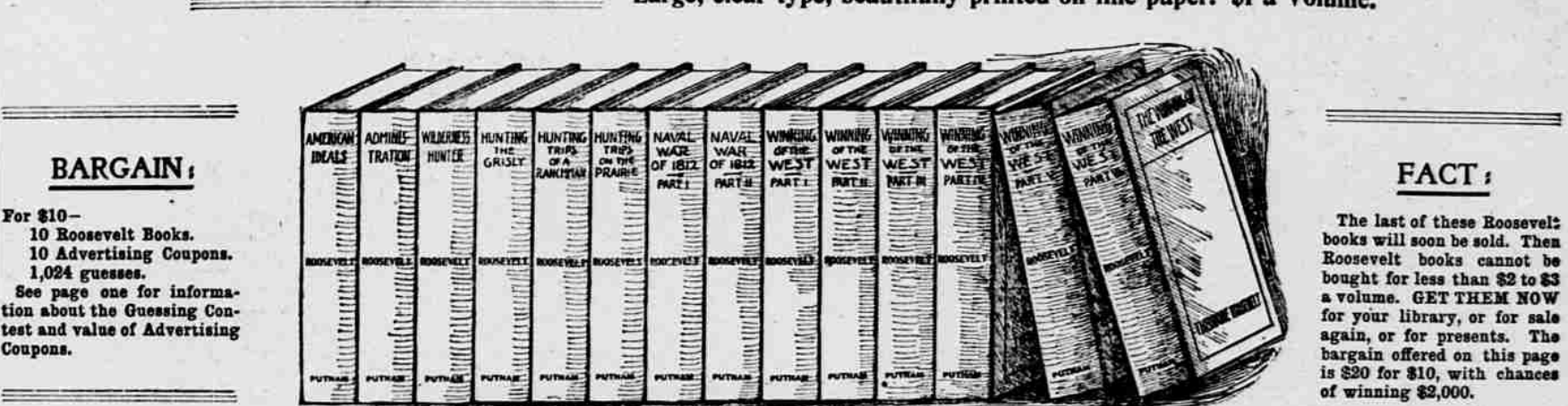
DURING 1902.	
Monday, Jan. 6.	2,270,372.53
Monday, Jan. 13.	2,627,969.39
Monday, Jan. 20.	2,280,012.06
Monday, Jan. 27.	1,970,949.93
Monday, Feb. 3.	2,135,297.40
Monday, Feb. 10.	2,148,329.50
Monday, Feb. 17.	2,643,591.73
Monday, Feb. 24.	2,763,390.79
Monday, Mar. 3.	1,983,438.41
Monday, Mar. 10.	2,369,923.37
Monday, Mar. 17.	1,964,883.64
Monday, Mar. 24.	2,909,674.93
Monday, Mar. 31.	2,507,405.20
Monday, Apr. 7.	2,969,315.96
Monday, Apr. 14.	2,158,727.99
Monday, Apr. 21.	2,258,579.23
Monday, Apr. 28.	2,241,471.17
Monday, May 5.	2,735,065.69
Monday, May 12.	2,097,093.72
Monday, May 19.	2,411,011.15
Monday, May 26.	2,422,011.17
Monday, June 2.	1,452,064.06
Monday, June 9.	2,793,901.73
Monday, June 16.	1,945,703.36
Monday, June 23.	2,264,814.54
Monday, June 30.	3,851,202.61
Monday, July 7.	1,775,958.40
Monday, July 14.	2,281,687.42
Monday, July 21.	1,983,419.05
Monday, July 28.	2,201,701.96
Monday, Aug. 4.	2,205,449.24
Monday, Aug. 11.	1,869,893.96
Monday, Aug. 18.	2,665,799.37
Monday, Aug. 25.	2,241,816.05
Monday, Sept. 1, Labor Day, holiday, no Treasury receipts.	

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